

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for managing risk through link analysis mapping, the method comprising:

receiving, into a memory of a computer system, information descriptive of two or more persons;

generating, in the computer system, links associating two or more persons based upon the received information, wherein the links indicate a relationship between the two or more persons;

receiving into the memory an identifier identifying a person and requesting links with a predefined specified number of degrees of separation;

generating, in the computer system, a link associating the identified person with one or more other persons with the specified number of degrees of separation; and

outputting for utilization in risk management an indication of the link associating the identified person with the one or more other persons with the predefined specified number of degrees of separation and an indication of one or more disconnects between the identified person and the one or more other persons, wherein the disconnect indicates a separation in time regarding the link associating the identified person with the one or more other persons.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising the step of receiving into the computer system an indication of a particular type of link to be analyzed.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising the step of indicating in the computer system a degree of separation between the identified person and the linked person.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the person comprises at least one of: an individual, a group, an organization, a corporation and an entity.

5. (Currently Amended) A computerized system for managing risk through link analysis mapping, the system comprising:

a computer server accessible with a system access device via a communications network;
and

executable software stored on the server and executable on demand, the software operative with the server to cause the server to:

receive information descriptive of two or more persons;

generate links associating two or more persons based upon the received information, wherein the links indicate a relationship between the two or more persons;

receive an identifier identifying a person and requesting links with a predefined specified number of degrees of separation;

generate a link associating the identified person with one or more other persons with the predefined specified number of degrees of separation; and

output for utilization in risk management an indication of the link associating the identified person with the one or more other persons with the predefined specified number of degrees of separation and an indication of one or more disconnects between the identified person and the one or more other persons, wherein the disconnect indicates a separation in time regarding the link associating the identified person with the one or more other persons.

6. (Original) The computerized system of claim 5 wherein the system access device comprises at least one of a computer and a personal digital assistant.

7. (Original) The computerized system of claim 5 wherein the communications network conforms to the transmission control protocol/internet protocol.

8. (Original) The computerized system of claim 5 wherein the software operative with the server additionally causes the system to at least one of:

receive an indication of a particular type of link to be analyzed; and

indicate a degree of separation between the identified person and the linked person.

9. (Original) The computerized system of claim 5 wherein the person comprises at least one of: an individual, a group, an organization, a corporation and an entity.

10. (Currently Amended) Computer executable program code residing on a computer-readable medium, the program code operable with a processor on a computer system for causing the computer system to:

receive information into a memory of the computer system descriptive of two or more persons;

generate, in the computer system, links associating two or more persons based upon the received information, wherein the links indicate a relationship between the two or more persons;

receive into the computer system an identifier identifying a person with a predefined specified number of degrees of separation;

generate a link associating the identified person with one or more other persons with the predefined specified number of degrees of separation; and

output for utilization in risk management an indication of the link associating the identified person with the one or more other persons with the predefined specified number of degrees of separation and an indication of one or more disconnects between the identified person and the one or more other persons, wherein the disconnect indicates a separation in time regarding the link associating the identified person with the one or more other persons.

11. (Original) The computer executable program of claim 10 wherein the program code additionally causes the computer to at least one of:

receive an indication of a particular type of link to be analyzed; and

indicate a degree of separation between the identified person and the linked person.

12. (Original) The computer executable program of claim 10 wherein the person comprises at least one of: an individual, a group, an organization, a corporation and an entity.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of interacting with a network access device so as to manage risk, the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting from the network access device a description of a person;

transmitting from the network access device a specific predefined indication of a degree of separation for which links to the person are desired;

receiving, at the network access device, an indication of links to one or more other persons, wherein the links indicate a relationship between the two or more persons with the predefined specified number of degrees of separation; and

receiving at the network access device a description of each link; and

outputting at the network access device for utilization in risk management an indication of the link associating the identified person with the one or more other persons with the predefined specified number of degrees of separation and an indication of one or more disconnects between the identified person and the one or more other persons, wherein the disconnect indicates a separation in time regarding the link associating the identified person with the one or more other persons.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the person comprises at least one of: an individual, a group, an organization, a corporation and an entity.

15. (Previously Canceled)